GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:824
ANSWERED ON:13.07.2004
TASK FORCE ON POWER SECTOR
Thakkar Smt. Jayaben B.

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has constituted any task force on power sector;

(b) if so, the composition, tenure of each Member and main objective thereof;

(c) whether the task force has submitted its report to the Government recently;

(d) if so, the main recommendations made by the task force; and the number out of them have accepted by the Government; and

(e) the reasons for non-acceptable ones?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED)

(a) to (e) : With the objective of catalyzing fresh investment in the power sector and ensuring the implementation of the reforms and the Electricity Act, 2003, a Task Force on `Power Sector Investments and Reforms` has been constituted on 19th August, 2003 under the Chairmanship of Shri N.K. Singh, Member (Energy), Planning Commission. The other Members of the Task Force were Shri S. Narayan, Shri R.V. Shahi, Smt. Vineeta Rai and Shri H.L. Bajaj. The Task Force has submitted its Report to the Government recommending, inter-alia, draft National Electricity Policy and Tariff Policy. The Government of India has already announced the following beneficial fiscal measures for the Power Sector based on the recommendations of the Task Force:

- Reduction of the aggregate duty on transmission and distribution equipments from the level of 25% (Basic Customs Duty) + 16% (CV Duty) + 4% (Special additional duty) to 10% (BCD) + 16% (CVD).

- Reduction of customs duty on electricity meters from 25% to 15%.

- Reduction of customs duty on coal from 25% to 15%.